

REMARKS

The examiner objects to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because the examiner believes the drawings fail to show the "adjustment parameter display" of claims 22 and 49. However, claims 22 and 49 do not claim an adjustment parameter display. Instead, claims 22 and 49 claim "display adjustment parameters." As discussed in at least ¶¶ [0006] and [0030] of the instant application, display adjustment parameters are parameters, e.g., size, contrast, etc., for adjusting a display. The applicants submit that there is no need or requirement to specifically draw such parameters. Further, the applicants note that the idea of adjusting such parameters is adequately illustrated in block 220 of Figure 2 and blocks 224, 228, and 234 of Figure 7. Further Figures 4A – 4D illustrate devices for controlling such parameters. Thus, the drawings adequately support the claimed "display adjustment parameters." The applicants request reconsideration.

The examiner also rejects independent claims 1 and 24 under §102(b) as anticipated by Miller (US2002/0024529) and under §102(a) as anticipated by Yong (US2004/0012556). In response, the applicants amend independent claims 1 and 24 to include the limitations of original dependent claim 3, which the examiner also asserts is anticipated by Miller and/or Yong. In particular, amended independent claims 1 and 24 include the limitations of "averaging the measured ambient light over a predefined time to determine an average measured ambient light" and "adjusting the display of the portable electronic device based on the average measured ambient light." The applicants further amend claims 2, 5 – 11, 14, 16, 18 – 21, 25 – 30, 32, 36, 38, 41, and 43 to conform the dependent claim language to that of the amended independent claims.

Miller teaches modifying both the luminance and contrast of an image as it is displayed on a display unit responsive to changing lighting conditions, (see ¶[0013]). Contrary to the examiner's assertions, nothing in Miller teaches or suggests averaging measured ambient light

over a predefined time. In fact, nothing in Miller even mentions using any type of average to control a display's luminance or contrast. Instead, Miller controls the display based directly on the measured luminance of the light illuminating the display unit and/or the display surround luminance (see ¶¶s [0013] - [0016]).

Yong teaches controlling the illumination of a backlight for an LCD based on a measured ambient light intensity value. Nothing in Yong teaches using an average of several measured ambient light intensity values. Instead, Yong teaches controlling the light source of an LCD to emit light at a time-averaged intensity. See Abstract. Thus, Yong controls an average of a display's intensity based on an ambient light measurement, instead of using an average of multiple ambient light measurements to control the display, as required by independent claims 1 and 24.

Because neither Miller nor Yong teach or suggest averaging the measured ambient light over a predefined time or using the average measured ambient light to control a display, neither Miller nor Yong anticipate each element of independent claims 1 and 24 as required under §102. The applicants request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 and 24, and all claims depending therefrom.

The applicants further note that at least claims 6, 9, 22, 25, 29, and 49 add patentably distinct limitations to the independent claims. Claims 6, 9, and 25 claim some form of adjusting a size of displayed information based on an average measured ambient light. The examiner concedes that Yong does not adjust a size of displayed information, but asserts that Rydbeck (US6233467) solves this deficiency. However, Rydbeck teaches adjusting a font size (or bolding the font) when poor lighting conditions are expected, such as when the portable electronic device is in a hands-free mode. Rydbeck does not measure ambient light to determine whether or not the lighting conditions are poor. Instead, Rydbeck specifically teaches determining the lighting conditions by determining how the device is being used. More

particularly, Rydbeck determines the expected lighting conditions by determining whether or not an external connector is connected to the portable device (i.e., determining if a hands-free connector is connected to the device). See col. 2, ll. 21 – 49. Thus, even if there is motivation to combine Rydbeck with Yong, the resulting combination only teaches controlling a display intensity based on a measured ambient light (Yong), and controlling a font size based on the current state of an external connector, such as a connector for a hands-free device (Rydbeck).

Claim 29 claims controlling at least one of a font type, a font color, and a background color based on the average measured ambient light. The examiner concedes that neither Miller nor Kuwata (EP1158484) teach these limitations, but asserts that Rydbeck solves this deficiency. As discussed above, Rydbeck only teaches changing the size of font and/or bolding the font based on a detected state of a connector. Thus, nothing in Rydbeck, Miller, or Kuwata teaches or suggests changing a font type, font color, or background color for any reason, much less based on an average measured ambient light.

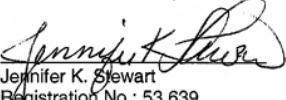
Claims 22 and 49 claim converting display adjustment parameters generated based on measured ambient light for a first display to display adjustment parameters for a second display. While the examiner concedes that Miller does not teach this limitation, the examiner asserts that ¶[0052] of the instant application states that it is well known to adjust parameters of multiple displays. Paragraph [0052] states that a display controller may determine the display parameter settings for one display based on the measured ambient light, and that the display controller may further convert the display parameter setting(s) to a format appropriate for another second display." Paragraph [0052] further states that "conversion techniques are known in the art." While ¶[0052] admits that general display parameter conversion techniques are known, ¶[0052] does not admit that it is known to convert display parameters derived for one display based on average measured ambient light to display parameters for another display, as required by claims 22 and 49.

For at least these reasons, claims 6, 9, 22, 25, 29, and 49 add patentably distinct limitations to the independent claims.

In light of the above remarks and the enclosed amendments, the applicants respectfully request that the examiner reconsider the stated rejections and objections and issue a Notice of Allowance. Should any issues remain unresolved, the applicants request that the examiner call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.


Jennifer K. Stewart
Registration No.: 53,639

Dated: 6 July 2007

1400 Crescent Green, Suite 300
Cary, NC 27518
Telephone: (919) 854-1844
Facsimile: (919) 854-2084